FBIS DAILY REPORT

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POLITICAL DINNER HONORS PRESIDENT, NATIONAL LEGISLATORS

PY021606Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Dec (NA)--Argentine President Jorge Rafael Videla described a dinner which reunited him with about 400 former legislators from different political factions as a "genuine expression of diversity through unity."

The dinner, held last night, was organized by the Association of Former National Legislators. It was the second dinner to bring President Videla together with traditional politicians, since on Thursday he was invited to a dinner given by about 300 members of the Association of Former Government Ministers and Under Secretaries, all of whom are also members of well-known political parties.

People like Ricardo Balbin, leader of the Radical Civic Union (UCR), were present at last night's dinner.

Others, however, like Intransigent Oscar Alende, who has preferred to criticize political changes since 1930, did not attend.

Peronists were clearly divided. While some were determined to attend, others--like provisional Peronist Party President Deolindo Bittel--described it as "inconvenient" and did not go.

The ones who did not pose in general any problems were Frondizi followers, members of the Integration and Development Movement.

Last night's dinner was held at the El Molino restaurant (across from the Congress building). Videla arrived dressed in a dark blue suit accompanied by Gen Juan Carcia, military household chief, and Santiago de Estrada, social security secretary, who were with him at the dinner held on Thursday.

Among the politicans attending the dinner were Balbin and his fellow UCR party members Arturo Illia, Juan Pugliese, Ruben and Francisco Rabanal; Peronist Party members Enrique Osella Munoz, Juan Rachini, Luis Rubeo (all of them anti-verticalist), Carlos Palario Deheza and others not so well known; Developmentists Marcos Merchensky and Hector Gomez Machado; Progressive Democrat Horacio Thedy; Popular Conservative Vicente Solano Lima; and Christian Democrat Antonio Allende.

During the dinner, Balbin stated he did not know that some UCR sectors were opposed to attending the dinner. He noted that the attendance of President Videla "gave special meaning" to the meeting, but he said, "This is our house. We invited him to attend our dinner and he came." His explanation for attending the dinner was: "I have always attended the dinner commemorating the day of the legislator because I believe it is a comradeship dinner."

Videla was invited as honorary member of the Association of Former Legislators, as are all of those occupying the presidency.

At the end of the dinner, UCR party member Vicente Mastrolorenzo, president of the association, noted that, as was traditional at this annual dinner, there would be no speeches. He added that this dinner was very special because of Videla's attendance. This was greeted with applause.

Immediately afterward, Mastrolorenzo invited President Videla to make "the traditional toast." Videla then delivered a brief speech stating:

"Ladies and gentlemen: I am delighted to share with you, as honorary president of the Association of Former Legislators, this dinner which is enhanced by the presence of ladies and which groups the most diverse political trends.

"But this diversity disappears in the service you have rendered at different periods.

"This is why I believe this reunion, which is a genuine expression of diversity through unity, is the proper place to invite you to make a toast, at a time when we face a future filled with challenges and a present which calls for important decisions.

"A toast for the cause, that ultimate reason for the whole, behind which all Argentines, despite our plurality, must be united over time and distance. Ladies and gentlemen, I invite you to raise your glasses in honor of the fatherland."

Some of the audience answered this (?toast) with cries of "long live the fatherland" and "for the fatherland."

After the dinner, when asked about the president's words, Balbin said that "they were very clear and they do not need any further explanation."

The old political leader said: "It is a patriotic position which is clearly defined." Asked whether he agreed with them, he said "sure."

Peronist leader Luis Rubeo, who is meat union leader, was also queried by journalists. He criticized Bittel's position of not attending the dinner.

He said: "We have adopted a specific stand against this kind of Peronism: We stand with Peron and Eva Peron; the others stand with Isabel Martinez, Lopez Rega and Firmenich."

According to Rubeo, the presence of Videla at the dinner "clearly shows the possibility of an opening."

MASSERA ATTENDS DINNER OF FORMER PROVINCIAL LEGISLATORS

PY021607Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Dec (NA)--Former navy chief Adm Emilio Eduardo Massera (ret) tonight sat at the head table of a reception organized by the Circle of Former Legislators of Buenos Aires Province at a hotel located approximately 100 meters from the El Molino restaurant, where the president met with former national legislators.

The president of the circle, Matilde de Amigo (Argentine People's Union--UDELPA); Ruben Mercado (Peronist); Jose Nandia (Radical Civic Union--UCR); Anastasio Perez Velez, president of the provincial Chamber of Deputies from 1963 to 1965; Rolando Hnatiuk (Justicialist) and others sat with Massera at the head table.

The organizers of the reception expressly made it clear that they had not invited any official of the current Buenos Aires provincial government and that Massera attended the reception as a "friend."

At the conclusion of the reception, perfumes and cosmetics of a well-known firm were raffled among those attending.

MASSERA CALLS HIMSELF 'COHERENT ALTERNATIVE'

PY011604Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2218 GMT 30 Nov 78 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 30 Nov (NA)--Adm Emilio Eduardo Massera (ret) unexpectedly attended a reception early this morning in honor of journalists who accompanied the Spanish monarchs. The reception was held in the residence of a well-known perfume industrialist.

When a Spanish journalist asked specifically if he considered himself a "coherent alternative" to the present process, Massera admitted this. He defined Peronism as a "national movement" and admitted having contacts with political groups from different trends.

HERALD COMMENTS ON ST JEAN'S 'ELITISM'

PY021630Y Buenos Aires HERALD in English 2 Dec 78 p 8 PY

[Editorial: "What Kind of Elite?"]

[Text] After being misgoverned under what was appropriately termed a kakistocracy (the rule of the worst), it is not surprising that the governor of the Province of Buenos Aires, General St Jean, would like to see the country managed by an elite. Yet General St Jean's statements about the need for a ruling elite were immediately followed by a speech by President Videla in which he specifically condemned "elitism" along with "populism." General Liendo, who as minister of labour is a major representative in the government of the "moderate" or conciliatory line in dealing with the popular sectors of society, rounded on General St Jean, accusing him of betraying the traditional democratic philosophy of Argentina by proposing "elitism."

It would seem at first to be an issue for a debating club--a purely academic question. Yet the fact is that in the past, arguments of this nature--today it is for or against "elitism," during the government of President Ongania it was for or against "corporativism"--have represented the tips of two icebergs, one democratic and one anti-democratic. Largely because Argentina was not involved in the Second World War, the people of this country did not share the human experience that forged the contemporary philosophy of the West. Having lived through the holocaust of suffering that Nazi-nationalism wreaked on Europe, or having experienced the horror that Japanese nationalists left in their wake throughout Asia, the people who live in the democracies can say, and they mean it, when faced with the threat or temptation of totalitarian ideas: "Never again." In Argentina, there are people who not only cannot say "never again" but would, given half a chance, cheer a second Hitler to power. And, unfortunately, the vast majority, who are democratic-minded, because they have not shared the experience of the struggle against Nazism, fail to defend those principles on which individual freedom can exist, unaware of the threat that the erosion of liberty represents to a free state. There always seems to be an underlying fear in Argentina that if Nazism ever has a second coming, it might be here.

Gen St Jean's perfectly sensible arguments in favour of a ruling elite do not deserve to be considered as opposed to democracy. Unfortunately the governor's statements seem to be made without sufficient thought being given to their implications. He is quite right when he says that Argentina needs a governing elite; but he should make it clear that he means a elite of the best of all classes, as opposed to the rule of the worst which, by and large, has been the cause of the country's catastrophic decline over the past half a century.

General St Jean is a conservative whose administration has proved to be effective and efficient. His team in La Plata has been recognized as a powerhouse of ideas. But unless the governor takes care to establish his democratic credentials, he is in danger of having his ideas dismissed out of hand. That would be a tragedy. Already the country owes the provincial government a debt for its efforts to promote law reform and its exemplary moves in modernizing public administration.

VIOLA COMMENTS ON FUTURE ROLE OF PARTIES

FY282019Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2330 GMT 23 Nov 78 FY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 23 Nov (TELAM)--The commander in chief of the army, Lt Gen Roberto Eduardo Viola, said that the question of whether political parties should exist or not is not under discussion, but rather how they should carry out their important role in a stable and organized society. The army commander spoke at a luncheon organized by the Italian Embassy, where he was the guest of honor and answered a questionnaire. The military chief said that political parties must work in harmony with all sectors of the national life aimed at the good of the country.

Viola said: "Political parties should be the channel for national opinion to express itself. They should group all sectors and people of all ages, and the great historic political decisions should be made through them."

He added: "The political parties are the school for political activity and national commitment. Their evolution and development is a guide to the evolution and development of Argentine political life. This is how we conceived it; this is how we want it; this is how we want them to be."

He said: "Political trends, when the are authentic, maintain a flow which we may call stable and permanent, in greater or lesser degree, but normally are not sufficient to win an election." He added: "The experience gained by the Argentine people in the last few years has been positive and negative, and the tragic alternative forced on us by terrorism has made us become aware of the situation; it gave us a greater understanding of what a change in the Argentine political spectrum can mean."

General Viola also said that the idea is not to deny, resist or ignore that the unions are, in the country's institutional political structure, a natural reality which is part of society and history.

He said: "We believe that unions, without class consciousness and the negative ideological beliefs, are a valid instrument to achieve national integration for the good of the country."

He said: "Sectorial representation is necessary and positive for leading the nation when it is genuine and honest, but it is not acceptable when it becomes an element which breaks the equilibrium of society."

General Viola said that freedom of the press is a means and an end which better helps the individual develop his personality and culture, his ability to think and express himself freely, and to become integrated into society. He also referred to reporters murdered by subversives.

He said that the critical situation experienced in Argentina made us beoome the scene of one of the most violent subversive struggles unleashed in the world, a war we did not want but which we had to confront in order to save our nation from chaos, a war in which many men, women and children died as a result of violence.

ENERGY OFFICIAL LOOKS FOR COOPERATION WITH SPAIN, ROMANIA

PY282031Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1612 GMT 28 Nov 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Nov (TELAM)--Rear Adm Carlos Castro Madero (ret), president of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], stated today that Argentina is seriously concerned about proliferation of the nuclear technology in the hands of the superpowers "as the most serious danger to which the world is subjected."

After reasserting that Argentina has repeatedly stated at all international forums its support for nuclear nonproliferation, Castro Madero indicated that the efforts to prevent nuclear proliferation must not be aimed at hindering transferal of technology. "Argentina is currently experiencing the effects of this mistaken policy through which it is being denied technology in fields necessary for its exclusively peaceful nuclear development," said Castro Madero.

He also confirmed that "next Thursday the Argentine president and the king of Spain, who is currently visiting us, will sign a cooperation agreement which is the result of my actions aimed at seeking more positive contacts with a power, like Spain, which is very advanced in the nuclear field, contacts which will undoubtedly yield mutual benefits. We have strong bonds with Spain, and we want these bonds expanded even further to encompass this field of cooperation which is so vital for the two countries."

Adm Castro Madero, who is currently in Vienna participating in the plenary session of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), said that at the end of this meeting he will go to Belgrade to attend a meeting of nonalined countries, which Argentina will coordinate in line with the decision reached by the latest meeting of foreign ministers of nonalined countries.

He added: "Taking further advantage of my trip, I will go to Bucharest, Romania, where in line with a special suggestion of the president of the nuclear energy commission of that country we want to draw up a cooperation agreement between Romania and Argentina. The two countries are following the same course because both have chosen the line of natural uranium and heavy water and have purchased a license to manufacture Canadian-type reactors of the type which is being built in Cordoba. The two countries are also developing techniques which envisage a positive exchange of technology. I believe that the two countries will benefit from this agreement."

Castro Madero made these statements to the team of journalists of Radio Belgrano.

PARANA RIVER DEVELOPMENT ACCORD SIGNED WITH SOVIETS

PY280248Y Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 25 Nov 78 p 2 PY

[Text] The director of the state water and power company, Capt Mario Raul Chingotto (ret), stated yesterday that this organization will have to advance 5 percent of the total cost of the middle Parana hydroelectric project for the studies of the project to begin with the participation of Soviet technicians.

Chingotto made this statement at the Ezeiza International Airport on arrival from Moscow, where he signed an agreement for Soviet technical aid for the southern project on the middle Parana on behalf of the state firm.

The official said: "The first task will be to review the study made by our engineers and then to produce a plan which will serve as a basis to call for international public bidding."

He then pointed out the advantages of the project, including the fact that it will allow the installation of a 2,100-megawatt plant in the southern area.

When the northern project is completed, at about 40 kilometers north of the city of Esquina, Corrientes, the total installed capacity of the middle Parana will reach 5,600 megawatts.

Chingotto also said that the depth of the Parana River at the stretch which is now unnavigable will increase.

YOUTH CONGRESS WARNS AGAINST WAR WITH CHILE

PY302223Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1705 GMT 30 Nov 78 PY

[Text] Argentine youth of different political persuasions have issued a warning that small but powerful Chilean and Argentine groups are still determined to bring about an armed confrontation between the two countries. The declaration was issued at the end of the first youth congress for peace and understanding between the peoples of Chile and Argentina, which ended here yesterday. It is signed by representatives of Peronism, radicalism, communism, popular socialism, Christian democracy, unified socialism, and the Intransigent Party.

The document says that war would only serve the interests of multinational companies which are disputing over the huge oil and fishing wealth existing in the Beagle Channel, which is also coveted for strategic reasons. The declaration, which is also subscribed to by the Argentine University Federation and the Argentine Writers Association, calls for the continuation of bilateral negotiations to uphold Argentina's sovereign interests. The declaration says that those sovereign rights demand respect for preexisting treaties and the "two-ocean" principle whereby Argentina must never claim points on the Pacific Ocean and Chile on the Atlantic Ocean.

The document finally states that concerning a question in which the lives of thousands of young people and national sovereignty might be at stake, the people must effectively participate through their natural channels of expression and their democratic institutions, whose legal status must be reinstated.

PRESS REPORTS ARRIVAL OF 'DAGGER' FIGHTER PLANES

PY021749Y Buenos Aires CRONICA in Spanish 2 Dec 78 p 20 PY

[Text] It was indicatedin circles which are generally well informed about air force matters that on Thursday and Friday the Dagger planes which were recently purchased by the air force took off from the Buenos Aires metropolitan airport.

These combat planes--supersonic fighter-bombers--arrived in our capital and flew to their assigned bases from that airport.

Official air force sources who were questioned about the planes stated that there was no information to release.

PROPOSAL ON TRIPARTITE ARICA PORT UNDER STUDY

PY011819Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Foreign Minister Raul Botelho Gonsalvez believes that there is still another chance for the Bolivian aspiration to access to the sea. The minister was referring to a statement by Peruvian Foreign Minister Jose de la Puente, who confirmed the Peruvian position of creating a port administered by Bolivia, Chile and Peru in Arica. The minister said that his ministry is studying the statement of his Peruvian counterpart, but he did not give any other details.

BANZER NAMED CANDIDATE BY SOCIAL CHRISTIAN PARTY

PY011731Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1430 GMT 1 Dec 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 1 Dec (AFP)--A few hours after former President Hugo Banzer Suarez was relieved from his position of ambassador to Argentina, he became the first presidential candidate for the July 1979 elections. Banzer was proclaimed candidate by the Social Christian Party (PSC), a political group which took part in the annulled 9 June 1978 elections as part of the official People's Nationalist Union (UNP) which launched the candidacy of Gen Juan Pereda Asbun. The PSC proclaimed reporter Jaime Humerez Selema as Banzer's running mate. The PSC also decided to start the electoral campaign today and to mobilize the Bolivian people in support of their candidates.

The PSC broke away from the UNP when General Pereda carried out a coup which overthrew Banzer on 21 July 1978.

SILES ZUAZO CRITICIZES BANZER, DISCUSSES FUDP

PY011324Y Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 30 Nov 78 p 34, 35 PY

[By special correspondent Jorge Gottling]

[Excerpt] La Paz 29 Nov--In an exclusive interview which took place in a residence in San Jorge--his political office, next to the presidential residence which the Banzer government began to build but which nobody has yet lived in--the leader of the Democratic and Popular Unity Front [FUDP], Hernan Siles Zuazo, talked in harsh terms about Banzer's expressed intention of returning to political activities with an eye on the July 1979 elections. At the same time, Siles Zuazo talked about the group he heads.

[Question] How do you view Banzer's decision?

[Answer] Banzer wants to lead the businessmen's sectors and the military groups which supported his dictatorship from 1971, when he sent political parties and labor organizations into recess, until he was elbowed out recently. Banzer's regime maintained itself through repression, torture, politically-motivated crimes and massacres like the one in Cochabamba Valley, where hundreds of peasants were killed. He also resorted to massive persecution, exiling and confinement. All of this is worth recalling.

[Question] Do you believe that Banzer will find support for a conspiracy?

[Answer] Relatively speaking, yes. He has connections in the military and private enterprise sectors. The latter are financially important. These same sectors enjoyed power during Banzer's 7 years in government. Fortunately for Bolivia, there are other equally significant sectors motivated by the national interest which have seen with sympathy the creation of the FUDP and the prospects offered by a broadly based, democratic and stable government.

[Question] But those sectors connected with Banzer allowed his ouster....

[Answer] They decided to replace him with Gen Juan Pereda Asbun when Banzer's oppressive government came to the end of the line, when the situation could no longer be maintained and was falling apart all by itself. The Pereda Asbun regime was a continuation, a soft version of the preceding regime with very similar general ideas. However, forced by demands from progressive sectors of the armed forces and, probably, acquiescing to external pressure, Pereda Asbun provided a series of liberties.

[Question] Pressures from which direction?

[Answer] Most likely from Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez during his meeting with Pereda in Bogota. And probably also accepting the "suggestions" and recommendations from the U.S. Department of State. It is a known fact that the Carter administration maintains better and easier relations with Latin American nonmilitary governments or with those in the process of democratization. There is also the pressure to implement respect for human rights. The democratic government which takes power in Bolivia should enforce the respect for those fundamental rights, not because of external pressures, but out of conviction that doing so will serve the Bolivian people.

[Question] What is the FUDP position regarding the new government of Gen Padilla Arancibia?

[Answer] His government represents the hope that it will mark the beginning of democracy. The decree calling for elections in July of next year and turning the government over on 6 August, our independence day, constitutes a promise for the country's institutionalization. In addition, this government has given assurance that the upcoming elections will be the most honest ever in Bolivia's history. And if in addition other promises are fulfilled, the way will be open for a reunification through a pluralistic and participatory democracy.

[Question] Is the FUDP participating in this government in some way?

[Answer] We are not participating in the government because it is a strictly military government at this time. The FUDP represents the majority of the Bolivian people, and the current actions of the Padilla government are in line with the interests of that majority. We share the intention of this military government, and the need on our part, of moving toward democratization.

[Question] Dr Siles, the character of the Bolivian people of all levels, including peasant and workers, with strong attachment to their property, is well known. The masses are really afraid of communism, and yet the Bolivian Communist Party [PCB] participates in the FUDP front.

[Answer] The PCB is a political organization which has adopted a democratic position and, according to its leaders, has full autonomy of action in Bolivia. The PCB has maintained correct and loyal behavior within the ranks of the FUDP. Furthermore, the PCB is acting as a sort of contention wall for the radical ideas of the labor organizations within the Leftist Revolutionary Front [FRI], which basically advocates the taking of power through popular revolt. Also the PCB has accepted the FUDP's nationalistic and revolutionary program. Otherwise, it would have never been accepted into the FUDP. It has to be said also that the PCB has a realistic attitude: The PCB knows that it is a minority party, with a good labor structure and good leading cadres.

Therefore, the PCB is really interested in having constitutional guarantees to develop its activities and to have the possibility of electing some representatives in the future congress. It can be clearly seen that all the Marxist-inspired parties in the world have a common strategy, i.e., to work according to the characteristics of their area.

LABOR LEADER CRITICIZES MILITARY, FUDP

PY011657Y La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 26 Nov 78 p 13 PY

[Text] Juan Lechin Oquendo, executive secretary of the Bolivian Labor Central [COB], has stated that he does not believe that the armed forces will comply with their announcement of holding elections on 1 July 1979 and that they do not have the capability of resolving "the serious economic crisis which armed forces governments have caused."

The new military government released a decree the day before yesterday which calls for elections on 1 July 1979 and states that the military government will hand over power to the winner on 6 August 1979.

Lechin said: "I am skeptical about the promises of the armed forces. I do not believe in them in view of the fact that many times they have not carried them out and because they have never been identified with the legitimate aspirations and rights of the people."

He then stated that in order to believe the announcement of returning to democracy, the armed forces government should "start with the disbanding of the military-campesino pact, thus allowing the rural workers complete freedom to organize and manage their own representative entities."

He noted that all military troops should be withdrawn from the mining centers and that repressive organizations such as the COP [presumably the Political Order Direcorate], "which were created during the Banzer government," should be disbanded.

Lechin believes that the mobilization of troops toward the borders is urgent in order to preserve the borders, especially those with Chile and Brazil because the "Bandeirante" [Brazilian] penetration is as dangerous as the warmongering expansionism of Chile.

The COB executive secretary believes that implementation of these and other measures is necessary for him to believe that there will be elections on the mentioned date.

He warned that if these demands are not complied with, the traumas and the discontent of the people will worsen and the workers will not be deceived into believing that "the armed froces are impartial. They will have a candidate, with the difference that their support will not be as overt as it was with General Pereda."

Regarding the country's economic situation, he said that it is "serious" and he blames General Banzer's government for it, including "the scandalous dependence on U.S. imperialism." He asserted that a "truly nationalist" position must be adopted.

The highest-ranking labor leader expressed his doubts about the armed forces' capability of handling the economic and financial crisis "which emerged during the last 7 years of government by the armed forces." He noted that his doubts are based on a series of background data.

Regarding this point, Lechin asserted that "the government does not justify itself only with its call for elections; it must also seek a solution for the serious economic and financial situation."

His opinion is that with the understanding that Banzer's government was an armed forces government, the current government must indict him, "especially regarding the $4 billion which was managed during his tenure."

In Lechin's opinion, the indictment should include armed forces personnel and civilians "in view of their illegal enrichment during that government's tenure." There must also be a struggle for the elimination of "official smuggling, which has caused the nation so much moral harm."

Lechin noted that "Banzer, in view of his role as an officer of the armed forces, will not be indicted, exiled or jailed because there is no back-stabbing among the military."

Referring to the demonstration carried out by several sectors the day before yesterday in La Paz, Lechin condemned the leaders of the Democratic and Popular Unity Front [FUDP] as "sectarian and divisionist."

He explained that the COB called on the workers to participate in the demonstration because he understood that the unity of the popular sectors had to be supported and because he believed that the time was appropriate for carrying it out without any danger to the people's integrity.

He indicated that he was sorry that "the FUDP had not understood these purposes" and that its leaders should have stated that they were the "owners" of the call for the demonstration and the demonstration itself, including the prohibition on speeches by other leaders.

He was also sorry that the FUDP leaders "opted for provocation." Lechin asserted that these leaders, notwithstanding their knowledge that workers discontent with the FUDP's attitude and "aware of their class independence" had congregated on 16 July Avenue, sought "confrontation."

He arrived at the conclusion that this constituted "a poor show very favorable for the new government." He indicated that "the workers are not seeking relations with the military in order to know when there will be a coup but because they are interested in their class and party independence, the improvement of the masses, the mobilization of their leaders, the political struggle for principles as well as other personal interests."

Lechin hotly denied the report which a La Paz radio station allegedly aired indicating that the workers, instigated by COB leaders, had burnt a Bolivian flag. He asserted that this was a slander which can be proven by many witnesses.

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH BOLIVIA

PY012359Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1925 GMT 1 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Lima, 1 Dec (AFP)--In an interview with the Peruvian magazine CARETAS, Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos stated that it is pointless to discuss matters related to Bolivia's landlocked situation because diplomatic relations between Chile and Bolivia have been severed. "Since negotiations regarding this subject were interrupted when diplomatic relations with Bolivia were severed, we are now back to zero, as the lawyers say. Therefore it is quite pointless to think about these matters," Cubbillos said when asked what was objectionable in Peru's answer to Chile's consultations about possibly conceding a corridor to Bolivia in the area of Arica.

Asked about Chile's position toward Bolivia's proposal to resume relations, but only if Chile gives up its demand for territorial compensation, the foreign minister stated: "We do not accept threats or conditions." He added that "Bolivia is doing the wrong thing by asking for this."

Cubillos concluded by stating that "severing relations unilaterally and unexpectedly, Bolivia has changed matters."

EL MERCURIO SAYS OPPOSITION TO BOYCOTT IS 'JUST'

PY011612Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0232 GMT 1 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 30 Nov (AFP)--The newspaper EL MERCURIO stated today that Chile's repudiation of the boycott agreed to by the Inter-American Regional Organization [ORIT] is just and fair.

In its Friday edition, EL MERCURIO states that just the announcement of a boycott on maritime cargo from and to Chile has unleashed a categorical reaction against it.

EL MERCURIO adds that there are several unions and personalities, in addition to the church, which have repudiated this act of foreign economic aggression, which again puts to test the strength of the country.

EL MERCURIO states that outside of a group of union leaders and former PDC [Christian Democratic Party] Minister Andres Zaldivar, the entire country has reacted against the boycott, leaving aside sectorial differences and preparing themselves to face an emergency which can harm everyone, particularly the most needy.

Last Sunday the ORIT general council approved in Lima a boycott against Chile, Nicaragua and Cuba for flagrant violations of human rights, following a proposal promoted by the AFL-CIO.

EL MERCURIO states that repudiation of the boycott is a natural gesture assumed by the majority in Chile.

'GROUP OF 10' FACES HOSTILITY OVER BOYCOTT

PY011357Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 1 Dec 78 PY

[Excerpts] At an agitated and sometimes violent press conference held yesterday, leaders from the so-called Group of 10 recognized that the boycott will cause serious damage to workers, but they did not repudiate it. They stated that this is a conflict between the Chilean Government and the AFL-CIO.

Among others attending the press conference were union leaders Eduardo Rios, Ernesto Fogel and Tucapel Gimenez.

There was an open confrontation between the Group of 10 leaders and representatives of the Chilean Nationalist Commission [Comision Nacionalista de Chile] who were attending the press conference at the National Association of Government Employees [ANEF] headquarters.

In his statement, Eduardo Rios praised the AFL-CIO, which promoted the boycott against Chile. The former Chilean Maritime Confederation [COMACH] union leader made the AFL-CIO into a sort of regional organization guiding Chilean domestic affairs.

Rios was interrupted in his praise of the AFL-CIO by young nationalists shouting "agents of U.S. imperialism" and "CIA mongrel."

Progovernment circles tried to remove members of the Group of 10 by force, but they issued their statement anyway.

Asked about his reaction as a Chilean citizen to the announcement of a foreign maneuver to boycott Chilean imports and exports, Rios recognized that this measure was very serious, but he did not repudiate it.

Asked what he thought as spokesman of the group about the present satisfaction of the large U.S. copper enterprises in view of the possibility of getting Chile out of competition in the international copper market he said:

[Begin recording] What can I tell you? I am not an economist or a financier. I do not play with the economic interests of transnational enterprises. [end recording]

Rios did not repudiate the fact that U.S. enterprises will benefit from the boycott promoted by the AFL-CIO.

Tied to Anti-Chilean Activities

PY021756Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 2 Dec 78 PY

[Text] There is new evidence which proves the involvement of the Group of 10 in several international activities against Chile.

This evidence concerns Eduardo Rios and Tucapel Giminez, former union leaders of the Chilean Maritime Confederation [COMACH] and the National Association of Government Employees [ANEF]. Both made several trips to Europe, especially invited by the AFL-CIO, the U.S. union organization which promoted in Lima the boycott against Chile.

A document disclosed this morning notes that the two union leaders (?agreed) to inform the AFL-CIO through diplomatic channels about those Chilean labor confederations which are controlled by the Communist Party.

Rios and Gimenez were to submit a list of unions led by Marxists with the objective of using these facts at the International Transportation Federation meeting in Dublin, Ireland. A boycott against Chile was proposed at this meeting but it was not approved.

The document disclosed this morning reports on a tour which Rios and Gimenez made throughout the United States. This tour was later extended to Geneva, where they contacted European and Scandinavian leaders who were told about their version of the real situation in Chile.

Furthermore, Luis Meneces, a leader of the outlawed Chilean Trade Union Confederation [CUTCH], is also mentioned in the document.

This document questions Meneces' honesty, since he did not submit any report on the large funds he received [words indistinct] opposition groups (?against) the Chilean Government.

This evidence follows the charges made yesterday by the organizers of the rally to be held on Wednesday at the Bulnes Plaza. They noted that the leaders of the Group of 10 belong to the Chilean labor union oligarchy which has [word indistinct] and which lacks any union representation and moral support.

VICARIATE PRIEST ADDRESSES HUMAN RIGHTS SYMPOSIUM

PY272345Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1817 GMT 24 Nov 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 24 Nov (AFP)--Father Christian Precht today stated here that the Catholic Church was forced to intervene in Chilean politics to preserve respect for human rights.

The priest, who is the highest-ranking representative of the Vicariate of Solidarity, delivered a summary of the real Chilean situation during the past 5 years while taking part in the international symposium on human rights being held in Santiago.

Precht recalled that the Vicariate of Solidarity was created in Chile after the military takeover in 1973 which overthrew the government of the late President Salvador Allende and established the regime headed by Gen Augusto Pinochet.

In a lengthy enumeration of the situations experienced by the nation since then, Precht mentioned arbitrary arrests, detentions in unknown places, disappearances, deaths without trial or with summary trials during the first few years, banishments and exiles from the country, persecutions due to political beliefs, closures of communications media and restriction of courts with respect to the protection of fundamental rights.

He added that these things forced the church to intervene.

Precht explained that the church entered into the broad field of politics but does not act as a political party, nor does it let itself be used.

The church does not fight for a political proposal, he insisted, but to reassert a historical tradition favoring the society's weaker elements.

In his exposition before the foreign and national delegates attending the symposium, Precht also mentioned the concentration of the legislative power in the hands of the government military junta and the executive powers of its president, as well as the impossibility of control of the military courts by civil justice, the excessively prolonged states of siege or emergency, the suspension of individual rights, and the creation of a secret police with all types of powers and no controls.

The symposium on human rights organized by the Chilean Catholic Church will end tomorrow with the signing of the Santiago charter.

SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS STIR REACTION

PY280252Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1840 GMT 25 Nov 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 25 Nov (TELAM-ANSA)--Persons close to the government today accused the president of the Chilean Supreme Court of Justice, Israel Borquez, of uttering "unfortunate statements."

In the few months he has been in this post, the top Chilean judge has made several public statements which have been termed offensive and rude by the sectors affected by them.

Borquez has now made statements which irritated military sectors, even though some spokesmen indicated to ANSA that there will be no official reaction.

On the occasion of the bomb explosion in the garden of his private residence (an explosion which only caused minor damages), Borquez angrily complained through the press, stating that the lack of police protection for his residence is "probably due to the lack of personnel. Since there are so many colonels, so many generals, so many admirals, they cannot spare a policeman for the president of the Supreme Court of Justice."

In response to ANSA queries, a government source indicated that Borquez' statements indicate the independence of the judiciary branch and the freedom of expression prevailing in the country, a freedom which enables any citizen, irrespective of his position, to express his opinion and complain at will.

A few months ago, the president of the Supreme Court also made statements which elicited condemnation.

LETELIER'S WIDOW LEAVES FOR UNITED STATES

PY021721Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1525 GMT 2 Dec 78 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile 2 Dec (AFP)--The widow of former Socialist Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier, who was assassinated 2 years ago, returned to Washington today after staying a week in Chile.

RESTRICTIONS ON PUBLISHED MATERIAL EASED

PY302325Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2223 GMT 30 Nov 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 30 Nov (AFP)--The Chilean military authorities today modified the regulations restricting the publication of newspapers, magazines, books and other printed matter, it was announced here.

The headquarters of the Santiago state of emergency zone repealed Edict 107 which imposed these restrictions and which has been criticized in recent months by groups of journalists, writers and editors as contrary to freedom of expression.

In its place was promulgated Edict 122, which specifies that all new publications should be submitted for authorization by the military headquarters, after having previously been submitted to the social communications division of the government and to the directorate of the college of journalists.

VISITING SANDINIST PROMISES 'FREE' NICARAGUA BY CHRISTMAS

PA291655Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 29 Nov 78 PA

[Text] A spokesman for the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], Ernesto Cardenal, has said here that Nicaragua will be freed from the Somoza dictatorship by Christmas. Cardenal, a revolutionary Nicaraguan poet and priest, made the statement as he recalled a promise by FSLN Commander Cero, Eden Pastora. Cardenal made the statement shortly after arriving in Quito to attend the Spanish-American meeting of writers and the week of solidarity with Nicaragua.

He feels that the best cooperation the Ecuadorean Government could offer to the Nicaraguan people would be to break diplomatic relations with the Somoza dictatorship. When mentioning solidarity, he emphasized the attitude of the Dominican people and reported that he has received a $50,000 contribution from the Dominican Revolutionary Party for the support of the Sandinist army. Cardenal, who will stay in Ecuador until Saturday, was given a warm welcome in Quito.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS TO CONTINUE WITH BOLIVIA

PA300423Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0031 GMT 30 Nov 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 29 Nov (AFP)--The Foreign Ministry announced tonight that the Ecuadorean Government has decided to continue its diplomatic relations with the Bolivian Government. The Foreign Ministry states in a communique that this decision has been adopted on the basis of the spirit of "traditional friendship" that has linked the Ecuadorean and Bolivian peoples and on the "principles" established in the ninth international American [as received] conference and Resolution No 26 of the second special inter-American conference, which indicates that "the establishment or maintenance of diplomatic relations with a government does not involve judgment of the domestic policy of that government."

GOVERNMENT CONDEMNS ATTACK ON CALDERON MUNOZ

PA302315Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Nov 78 PA

[Official statement issued by Ecuadorean Government and Justice Minister Bolivar Jarrin Cahuenas on 30 November--read by announcer]

[Text] The Government and Justice Minister declares that the attack on economist Abdon Calderon Munoz in Guayaquil deeply concerns the Supreme Council of Government, particularly the ministry which I head. The government deplores the event and expresses hopes for the prompt recovery of economist Abdon Calderon Munoz. The Government Ministry has issued precise instructions for exhaustive investigations that will lead to discovery of the authors, accomplices and accessories of this despicable and condemnable actions. Let this be an opportune occasion to reiterate once again that the armed forces government rejects and condemns all such acts of violence which disrupt the republic's peace and bring grief to the Ecuadorean family.

BRIEFS

L.A. FISCAL CONTROL CONGRESS--The fifth congress of the Latin American Institute of Fiscal Control Science [Instituto Latinoamericano de Ciencias Fiscalizadoras] opened today in Quito. It was opened by Foreign Affairs Minister Jose Ayala on behalf of the Supreme Council of Government. Latin American comptrollers general and heads of state auditing departments are attending the congress. [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Nov 78 PA]

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES ITAIPU PROJECT

PY302224Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 30 Nov 78 p 10 PY

[Text] Our country will answer Argentina on Saturday, 2 December, regarding its note concerning the harmonizing of the Parana River hydroelectric projects and, in particular, the decision made by Paraguay and Brazil to add two reserve turbines to the Itaipu plant on the Parana.

Our country's answer will present its opinion about the best way to continue the binational hydroelectric projects, while first defending our national interests.

Foreign Affairs Minister Alberto Nogues, asked by the press about a Brazilian news report, stated: "Our country is just as important as Brazil in everything concerning the construction of the Itaipu dam, and any proposal or negotiation conducted with Argentina should always include Paraguay's approval."

Nogues added: "The very cordial relations existing between Paraguay and Brazil, and the obvious circumstance that Itaipu is a binational enterprise create a set of interests which can in no way be avoided.

With respect to the answer presented to the memorandum issued by Argentina concerning the Paraguayan and Brazilian decision to add 2 reserve turbines to Itaipu, Nogues said that "naturally, each government will answer separately, presenting its point of view. However, this procedure does not presuppose a misunderstanding concerning this issue, as the Brazilian report tried to imply."

Still commenting on the Brazilian report, which states that the two countries will return to only 18 turbines without the 2 additional reserve units, the foreign minister stated: "When two governments make a decision through diplomatic channels, it should be presumed that they have acted carefully and with responsibility. It is not to a nation's credit to act lightly, and even less to make a decision which would damage its authority."

Finally, Nogues said that "the exchange of diplomatic notes regarding the 18 turbines installed for operation with 2 reserve units is a document which, in the opinion of the government, takes into consideration the interests of the 3 nations."

RADICAL LIBERAL PARTY UNDERGOES REORGANIZATION

PY281906Y Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 26 Nov 78 p 2 PY

[Excerpts] A reorganization in the hierarchy of the Radical Liberal Party [PLR] in answer to the need for a responsible line of action, nonenforcement of factions, and an opposition which does not make concessions but which bases its actions on dialog and an open policy are some of the points included in guidelines drafted yesterday by the PLR leadership headed by German Acosta Caballero.

This was disclosed at a press conference held at PLR headquarters at 936 Iturbe Street attended by PLR Board President German Acosta Caballero, PLR Secretary General Ramon Lezcano Torres and other PLR party members such as Emilio Forestieri and Carlos Bonsi.

The members of the PLR board reported that they had inherited from the previous board a debt of 176,000 guaranies for light, water and telephone bills and for printing the weekly EL RADICAL published by HOY.

Furthermore, they are reported to have asked the former treasurer to submit within 1 week an account statement and a balance statement up to 31 October.

Acosta Caballero noted that "the latest reorganization in the PLR board does not mean a change in the party board, which continues to be the same one elected on 24 April 1977 at the regular PLR convention."

He added: "This is not a mere reorganization of the party hierarchy, but rather a deep change in procedures, attitudes and actions aimed at projecting a more positive image of the PLR to the public."

He stated that "this long-sought objective of all PLR members was disregarded by those who until recently constituted the party leadership and who, instead of enforcing an open policy, isolated themselves in an ever more reduced selfish circle."

According to the present PLR board, that attitude systematically obstructed attempts to regroup the estranged members of the party hierarchy.

They noted that in view of this stubbornness, there was no other alternative than to enforce an extreme measure to renew the party leadership. Therefore, there was a reorganization of the party leadership committee [mesa directiva] without changes in the party board.

The new leadership renders ineffectual all factions and groups within the Radicalist movement. It was reported that from now on there will be only one PLR, which will be completely reorganized.

PARENTS SEEK RELEASE OF AMILCAR SANTUCHO

PY011730Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1604 GMT 1 Dec 78 PY

[Excerpts] Rome, 1 Dec (AFP)--The elderly parents of Mario Roberto Santucho, Argentine-born founder of the Revolutionary People's Army [ERP], today launched a new appeal in support of another of their sons, Amilcar Latino, who has been in jail in Paraguay since 1975.

During a press conference, Francisco Santucho, 82, and his wife Manuela indicated that since 1972 six members of their family have been murdered, four have disappeared, and two are in jail.

The repressive action against the Santucho family became more serious after the death of the ERP's founder on 19 July 1976. Amilcar tried to seek refuge in Paraguay and was immediately detained.

Francisco and Manuela Santucho have already submitted pleas to the UN high commissioner for refugees, Amnesty International, the World Council of Churches, the OAS and the U.S. State Department. They will be traveling to Geneva and Madrid soon and will then travel to Paraguay to try and see their son.

The last time they were able to visit him was in November 1977.

FINAL ELECTION RESULTS TO BE RELEASED 4 DECEMBER

PA0400500Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0025 GMT 4 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] Caracas, 3 Dec (EFE)--Venezuelan polls remained open today 3 hours after the scheduled closing time in order to accommodate the long lines of voters throughout the country. In some places voters had to wait 4 hours or more to vote. There was a large voter turnout and the voting was conducted in an orderly manner.

The voting results are being taken by military personnel to the Supreme Electoral Council (CSE) where they will be processed by computers at the rate of about 1,000 per hour.

At 2200 tonight (0200 GMT Monday) the CSE will begin releasing the first official results on the voting. Final results will be known sometime Monday.

Herrera Forecast as Winner

PA0403332Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0303 GMT 4 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 3 Dec (AFP)--Independent political observers forecast here tonight the election of opposition candidate Luis Herrera Campins of the Christian Democratic Party (COPEI) as the next president of Venezuela. They based their forecast on initial returns obtained unofficially from some polls while voting was still going on in several parts of the country 16 hours after voting began in these general elections today.

Voting, which was to have ended at 2000 GMT, was extended at first to 1900 (2300 GMT) and later until all citizens could vote, according to a decision made by the Supreme Electoral Council (CSE) due to the large voter turnout and the slowness of voting.

Neither this super extension nor the ban on releasing partial results before the CSE's announcement prevented news, however incomplete, from being leaked.

Both the COPEI and the Democratic Action (AD) government party, whose candidate is Luis Pinerua Ordaz, have claimed victory. It was reported at AD headquarters that Pinerua was ahead with 674,000 votes against 372,000 votes for Herrera.

Election Eve Explosions

PA0317030Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2043 GMT 2 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] Caracas, 2 Dec (EFE)--Five persons were seriously wounded when several bombs exploded in various parts of Caracas today, Saturday, on the eve of the presidential elections.

A child and a woman were injured on a street in Chacao, in the eastern part of the city, when a bomb that had been hidden in newspapers exploded on the sidewalks.

Meanwhile, last-minute reports state that there have been explosions in several parts of Caracas, with some of the bombs dispersing pamphlets containing subversive propaganda. There has been no confirmation of the casualties although it is believed that there are five.

PEREZ COMMENTS ON U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT 'DOCUMENT'

PA0101137Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Nov 78 PA

[Excerpt of press conference granted by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez in Caracas on 30 November--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Madrid Velasquez of Panama's Channel 2 newscast. What are your comments on a report that a U.S. State Department spokesman, Mr Hodding Carter, referred to intervention by Venezuela, Cuba and Panama in Nicaraguan affairs through their support given to the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN]?

[Answer] I do not think that such a document would be issued by the State Department, which today released a statement by the same spokesman who (?denied it). Anyway, it would be unheard of for the U.S. Government to publicly accuse or cast suspicions on us.

In regard to the charge, Venezuela has never carried out interventions in other nations, with the exception of the one conducted with Nicaragua against Costa Rica at the time we were exiled in Costa Rica. It was proved that Venezuelan weapons and aircraft had supported the attack on Costa Rica sometime around 1956.

In America the only interventions we know of have been made by the United States against nations in this hemisphere. Fortunately, they are past history and we do not expect them to recur. However, it does not seem to us that hemispheric relations and the Carter administration will benefit from scolding Latin American countries as if they were children.

We do believe that governments should exchange opinions and points of view, however. For example, I have maintained an exchange of ideas with President Carter on various matters affecting bilateral relations, Caribbean and Latin American problems, and global affairs of multilateral interest. In the case of Nicaragua, our contacts through our ambassadors and personal communications have been very frequent and at no time have I been charged with interfering in Nicaraguan affairs, especially militarily.

What concerned us most in the news item was the fact that a curious alliance is being alleged between Cuba, which is a country with a different ideology because it is a communist country, and Venezuela, Panama and Costa Rica. It would seem that the news item has two implications: one is to identify the FSLN as communist, thereby disqualifying it; the other is to involve Venezuela, Costa Rica and Panama in a plot. These two implications seem very dangerous to me and in no way contribute to the position which democratic countries should assume in order to insure that a decent regime with respect for human rights is installed in Nicaragua.

We must also note that, after the OAS human rights commission ascertained that a true genocide had been committed in Nicaragua, that innocent people had been murdered, that people had been indiscriminately machinegunned from airplanes, nothing has happened. What about the UN and OAS proclamations? What about our statements in the defense of human rights?

It is true--and I sincerely admit it--that the U.S. Government, committed by President Carter's ethical attitudes, has taken steps to help bring about a democratic solution in Nicaragua. On the other hand, we see remarkable things such as two U.S. Congressmen acting as spokesmen for Somoza in a Managua press conference. Therefore, there are a series of contradictions which concern us greatly because we believe that the U.S. attitude is very important in the seeking of an honest and decent solution for this situation. It would be a mortal blow to the OAS if these brutal and bestial human rights violations remain unsanctioned.

COSTA RICA

6,000 CIVIL GUARDSMEN PLACED ON ALERT

PA012150Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2046 GMT 1 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpt] San Jose, Costa Rica, 1 Dec (AFP)--Six thousand men of the Costa Rican public force have been placed on alert, Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria revealed today. The order was given as a preventive measure in view of possible new confrontations between Nicaraguan forces and opposition guerrillas. These confrontations could involve Costa Rica in some manner.

"I would rather not underestimate the risk," Echeverria said after announcing that there had been intensive troop movements by Nicaraguan forces along the border. According to reports, Echeverria said, some 1,500 Nicaraguan soldiers are deployed in the region. They are supported by aircraft, armored battalions and infantry, press reports published here today said.

The Costa Rican Government has decided to present to the OAS a new report on the 21 November confrontation with Nicaragua which reaffirms the thesis that the incident occurred on Costa Rican territory. OAS delegates visited the border region again on Thursday. This time they visited the Nicaraguan side where they heard the Nicaraguan version of the incident as related by that country's officers.

They returned to Washington today and their final report is expected next week. It will be presented to the OAS permanent council.

CARAZO DENIES RUMORS OF WITHDRAWAL FROM CACM

PA012226Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] In a special report for Radio Reloj, President Carazo denied this morning that Costa Rica is withdrawing from the Central American Common Market [CACM].

Dispatches from Guatemala had said that Costa Rica was about to announce its withdrawal from CACM because of the $20-million loan granted by the regional monetary council to the Nicaraguan Government on Monday.

Costa Rica will remain within CACM and contribute to its stability, the president said in denying the reports from Guatemala. Costa Rica strives for CACM's consolidation.

WOUNDED CIVIL GUARDSMAN RETURNS FROM NICARAGUA

PA011604Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0026 GMT 1 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] San Jose, 30 Nov (ACAN-EFE)--A member of Costa Rica's public force who was wounded during a clash with the Nicaraguan National Guard returned today, Thursday, to San Jose from Managua.

Juan Gabriel Zamora, a member of the Costa Rican Civil Guard (police), arrived this afternoon in this capital from Managua after being hospitalized in Nicaragua for 10 days.

Today, the guardsman was subjected to new tests at the Mexico Hospital, located about 4 km from San Jose. President Carazo visited him in the room where he is recovering.

The armed conflict in which Zamora was wounded and two of his comrades were killed caused the Costa Rican Government to break relations with Nicaragua last week. Nonetheless, the guardsman's return has been regarded here as a good sign reflecting a certain normalization of the critical relations with Gen Anastasio Somoza's government.

PUBLIC TRIAL OF SOMOZA OPENS IN SAN JOSE

PA031651Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] A public trial against Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza Debayle began today in the auditorium of the National Insurance Institute in San Jose. The trial is being held under strict security measures and no one is allowed in the premises without a special invitation. Civil Guardsmen have been posted at all entrances to the building.

Many Nicaraguan citizens, eyewitnesses of the incidents in the Indian community of Monimbo, Masaya, Esteli, and other cities, submitted their testimonies this morning.

The Nicaraguan Embassy submitted a 100-page document denying the charges against the Nicaraguan president. No defense counsel for the defendant has been presented.

The court is comprised of three judges who are presiding over the deliberations. They are Mario Leiva Quiroz, president of the Costa Rican Bar Association; Dr Jorge Arturo Reina, rector of the Honduran Autonomous University; and Rafael Cuevas, rector of the San Carlos University in Guatemala. Lawyers for the prosecution are Raul Marini, Francisco Morera, Francisco Lemus and Francisco Cordero.

The 12-man jury includes former Deputy Jose Miguel Corrales Bolanos, Rodolfo Solano Orfila, labor leader Alvaro Montego Vega, Costa Rican painter Rafael Angel Hernandez, newspaperwoman Maria Amalia Sotela de Berrocal and other personalities who came to Costa Rica especially to participate in the trial.

On Monday, 4 December, according to the proposed schedule, the trial will end with the solemn reading of the final declaration in the presence of the jury and the officials presiding over the event.

BRIEFS

COCONUT PRODUCTION--The Agriculture and Livestock Ministry has announced that Costa Rica is producing 7 million coconuts a year. It said that there is surplus production now but that Costa Rica has an extensive market, particularly in the United States. All exported coconuts are processed due to a law banning the exportation of unprocessed coconuts, a ministry spokesman reported. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Nov 78 PA]

EL SALVADOR

GUERRILLAS DEMAND RANSOM FOR PHILLIPS EXECUTIVE

PA011735Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2350 GMT 30 Nov 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 30 Nov (AFP)--The so-called Marxist-Leninist Proletarian Guerrilla Army is demanding an $800,000 ransom and the distribution of groceries among the poor for the freedom of Fritz Schuiteman, a Netherlands citizen who was kidnaped last Friday, it was learned today.

These demands were transmitted to the newspaper DIARIO DE HOY in a telephone call from a person who added that the organization will increase its demands.

Schuiteman, 32, arrived 3 [word indistinct] ago in El Salvador to take over as general manager of the Phillips Company. Schuiteman was kidnaped outside his office.

FARN Claims Responsibility

PA011735Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0256 GMT 1 Dec 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 30 Nov (ACAN-EFE)--The Armed Forces of National Resistance (FARN) claims to be the organization which kidnaped Frank Fritz Schuiteman last Friday. Thus, it is attempting to deny the report that the kidnaping was carried out by a new organization known as the Marxist-Leninist Proletarian Guerrilla Army. Schuiteman is the general manager of the Phillips Company in El Salvador.

In a communique, which it says is the first, FARN states that the operation Anastacio Aquino, Farabundo Marti, Feliciano Ama, Saul Santiago Contreras, Roque Dalton, Felipe Pena and Lil Milagro Ramirez, was carried out without any problem. These are the names of persons who have been struggling against the ruling classes and the existing socioeconomic conditions since the last century.

FARN says that it contacted the Phillips Company Saturday and that Schuiteman is in good health. FARN adds that all the communiques signed by the EGP organization are false. FARN's communique has caused confusion among the Salvadorans who were receiving messages and demands from another organization.

CLANDESTINE GROUPS REPORTEDLY JOIN FORCES

PA011735Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2352 GMT 30 Nov 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 30 Nov (AFP)--The illegal organizations operating against the Salvadoran Government will join their efforts, a local newspaper was informed today in a telephone call from a person who identified himself as a member of the Marxist-Leninist Proletarian Guerrilla Army.

The clandestine organizations that will directly participate in this action are: the Popular Liberation Forces, the Armed Forces of National Resistance, the Revolutionary People's Army and the Marxist-Leninist Proletarian Guerrilla Army, which was recently created.

NICARAGUA

REPORT ON NEW MEDIATION COMMISSION PROPOSAL

PA032249Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Managua--The international commission of friendly cooperation and efforts toward a peaceful solution of the Nicaraguan crisis has submitted a new proposal to the government and the opposition calling for a popular consultation on 1 January 1979.

Mediators Ramon Emilio Jimenez, from the Dominican Republic; Alfredo Obiols, from Guatemala; and William Bowdler, from the United States submitted a document to President Somoza, the Nationalist Liberal Party [PLN] negotiating committee and the Broad Opposition Front [FAO] which improves upon the original proposal of 21 November 1978.

The OAS commissioners consider that the proposed plebiscite in which the Nicaraguan people will decide whether Somoza should remain in power or resign in order to permit a national unity government to be created has been accepted in principle by both parties.

The opposition added the demands for full international guarantees, a climate of internal freedom and the departure of Somoza and members of his family holding posts in the armed forces while the election is being held as well as participation by all Nicaraguan refugees and exiles.

Somoza and Liberalism amended the proposal, adding that should the people rule in favor of Somoza's departure from power, a constituent assembly would be called to draft a new constitution and organize a new government.

Taking into consideration the recommendations by both parties and those of other sectors active in Nicaraguan life concerning the formation of national unity government, the mediation commission has submitted the following proposal to the government and the FAO:

1. To begin direct negotiations under the sponsorship of the international commission and in the presence of representatives of the Superior Council of Private Enterprise and the church.

2. To hold as of 1 January 1979 the popular consultation in which the Nicaraguan people will decide whether General Somoza should continue in power, in conformity with the conditions accepted by both parties.

3. To agree, regardless of the results of the plebiscite, on the creation of a national unity government on the following foundations:

A. If the result favors General Somoza, the national unity government will be headed by him. Otherwise, he should resign and the Congress, in joint session, will elect a deputy or a senator to substitute for him.

The chosen president will hold that post until 1 May 1979, on which date and in conformity with the constitution amended in accordance with Point 4 of these foundations the Congress will elect as the new president the person proposed by the FAO and accepted by the PLN for the period 1 May 1979 to 1 May 1981.

B. To form the cabinet of the national unity government with one-third of its members representing the PLN, one-third representing the FAO and the other third made up of independents jointly approved by the PLN and the FAO. All executive dispositions shall be made with the agreement of the Council of Ministers.

C. To reorganize the judicial branch by substituting the current magistrates, who will resign before a joint session of Congress, with professionals of known prestige who have been accepted by both parties.

D. To reorganize the National Guard by establishing the Nicaraguan Armed Forces with its three branches: army, navy and air force. This will be done in conformity with a new organic law prepared by a technical council of National Guard officers appointed by the Council of Ministers.

E. To organize and establish the national police, which will be in charge of public order and will be under the jurisdiction of the Government Ministry. This will be in conformity with the proposal submitted by a committee of experts.

F. To create a committee with an equal number of representatives from the PLN and the FAO to draft a new electoral law which will guarantee the organization and functioning of political parties within the principles of democratic pluralism, free elections based on a technically [as heard] organized process and the creation and functioning of an electoral tribunal free from partisan pressures.

G. To create, organize and put into operation an adequate, autonomous and trustworthy fiscal control mechanism which through laws and correct administrative practices will prevent embezzlement and channel national funds to promote and satisfy the needs and development of the Nicaraguan people.

4. The national unity government will create a special committee made up of an equal number of representatives from the PLN and FAO to draft partial constitutional amendments for the purpose of bringing the constitution up to date and guaranteeing the effective exercise of human, individual and social rights and the nation's institutionalized functioning. These amendments shall enter into effect no later than 1 April 1979.

5. The national unity government shall submit to Congress the bills necessary to improve the social pact, bills which may be deemed urgent for the welfare of the Nicaraguan people and bills that are required for good state and municipal administration.

The international commission of friendly cooperation and conciliating efforts considers that the present proposal clarifies and complements its original proposal of 21 November. Also, in view of the urgent need to bring about the peaceful solution of the current Nicaraguan crisis, it urges the two parties to promptly approve the proposal.

The document concludes with the signatures of its three members.

OPPOSITION REACTS TO SOMOZA NEWS CONFERENCE

PA011938Y San Jose Radio Monumental in Spanish 1810 GMT 1 Dec 78 PA

[CENTRAL AMERICAN NEWS AGENCY (ACAN) correspondent Eduardo Romero's report for San Jose Radio Monumental on reaction to Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza's acceptance of plebiscite proposed by international mediating commission, from Managua on 1 December 1978--presumably recorded]

[Text] The Nicaraguan opposition agreed today, through its most prominent leaders, that the proposal for a plebiscite and a constituent [assembly] made last night by President Anastasio Somoza during a news conference is more or less a mockery of the Nicaraguan people and the international mediation commission composed of government representatives from the United States, the Dominican Republic and Guatemala.

According to the opinion expressed today by Reynaldo Antonio Tefel Velez, former adviser to the negotiating commission, or political commission of the Broad Opposition Front [FAO], Somoza did what was expected. He gave a no with the appearance of a yes. He did not accept the plebiscite proposed [by the mediating commission] because, according to his proposal, the time required to arrange the plebiscite would almost coincide with the conclusion of his term in 1981. According to the calculations of opposition elements, a little more than 19 months would be necessary.

Tefel said that Somoza's position is embodied in the slogan of Italian writer Laperusza, that things must change to remain the same.

The opposition political leader added that in September and February of this year, the opposition and the Nicaraguan people civicly and militarily expressed their wish that President Somoza leave Nicaragua.

Moreover, the leader of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, enterpreneur Alfonso Robelo, said this morning that President Somoza is openly mocking the international mediation commission and that the FAO's position will be defined during a meeting this afternoon. For this reason, he feels that the FAO should await the reaction of the international mediation commission before declaring a definite withdrawal from any forthcoming talks about the problem raised by President Somoza.

Meanwhile, Eduardo Montealegre Callejas, a walthy banker and president of the BANIC financial consortium in Nicaragua yesterday held a luncheon reception in honor of the members of the mediation commission which was attended by prominent figures of Nicaragua's political, economic and social life. Montealegre Callejas said regarding Somoza's departure that he has already pointed out that every politician must sacrifice his personal interests for the sake of the fatherland and the people. Montealegre Callejas said that the alternative of an armed struggle, in the event that it cannot be avoided, would be a grave responsibility for those who must make decisions both within the government and the opposition.

Referring more specifically to Somoza's resignation, Montealegre Callejas said that every individual must recognize what is the best for his fatherland, that he must assume this attitude and that his prompt departure would be the healthiest thing for the country and Nicaraguans.

In conclusion, he voiced support for the FAO's decision to accept the plebiscite proposed by the mediation commission on the basis of the solid guarantees of freedom and purity of suffrage which the OAS has been offering through its mediation commission in Nicaragua. He said that the presence of this commission is precisely a part of the continent's concern for the crisis situation that has arisen in the Central American country.

TUNNERMAN SEES SOMOZA'S RESPONSE AS MOCKERY

PA012057Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] Dr Carlos Tunnerman said today here in San Jose that Somoza's acceptance of the plebiscite proposal represents a gross maneuver and that the mediation commission's efforts have failed. The manner in which Somoza said he would accept the plebiscite proposed by the international mediation commission represents an obvious mockery of everything and everybody, added Tunnerman, a member of the opposition's so-called Group of 12.

[Begin Tunnerman recording] Somoza's decision is really nothing but a maneuver and a mockery of the mediation commission itself and of the Broad Opposition Front [FAO], which felt that at some point a solution might be found through a plebiscite. In truth, because of the conditions he has set, Somoza is not really accepting a plebiscite. For instance, he says that he accepts a plebiscite but that he will remain in the country while the plebiscite is being held. That is equivalent to rejecting it because no one would believe in a plebiscite held while Somoza is in the country because of the way in which he has always handled Nicaragua's electoral system, because of the pressure he might exert and because of the entire corrupt electoral system that Somoza has established in Nicaragua.

I believe that at this point the democratic elements within the FAO, those groups which really wish to stage a final battle against Somoza's dictatorship, should immediately withdraw from the negotiations with the mediation commission. They should no longer participate in those negotiations because it has been shown that nothing is accomplished through them.

So far, only Somoza has benefitted from those negotiations, which have already extended for 2 months, because they have given him time to continue arming. They have given him time to maneuver and prolong this issue. The opposition, meanwhile has suffered during the mediation commission's efforts because of the divisions that have occurred within it.

We must forget these negotiations because they have already failed. Somoza foiled them last night when he proposed that bit of mockery--the proposal he read on Nicaraguan television. Also when he went so far as to say that even after stepping down from the presidency 6 months after [being defeated in the plebiscite]--in the event the results were adverse to him--he would stay in Nicaragua. This means that he would seek to remain the power behind the throne. He would seek to continue maneuvering and perhaps would be ready to become a candidate in 1981. [end recording]

FSLN COMMUNIQUE CONDEMNS PLEBISCITE, FAO ATTITUDE

PA022112Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 Dec 78 PA

[Communique to Nicaraguan people and the world issued by National Directorate and general staffs of Sandinist National Liberation Front from somewhere in Nicaragua; date not given]

[Text] In the wake of the Sandinist offensive in September, which undermined the corrupt bases of the Somozist tyranny, the most reactionary sectors of the U.S. Government rushed to strengthen Somozism through the so-called commission for friendly collaboration and conciliatory efforts in Nicaragua. As we have already pointed out, this mediation did not come about until after Somoza and his criminal National Guard had perpetrated a most horrible genocide by bombing those cities held by the Sandinists, a fact which once again made evident the U.S. Government's complicity with the cowardly and criminal Somozist regime.

Under such circumstances, the mediators began their interventionist task, looking for a way to reconcile the Broad Opposition Front (FAO) with Somozism. The gentlemen in the commission knew whom to approach. They clearly realized that the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), and with it the large majority of the Nicaraguan people, would not accept any unjust agreement involving Somozism.

At first the FAO maintained that negotiations could not begin unless the state of siege and martial law were lifted. Somoza responded by extending the state of siege for another 6 months, by continuing to arm, by assassinating dozens of citizens, and by imprisoning and torturing others. But the FAO began negotiating under those conditions nevertheless.

Then the mediators managed to make the FAO accept a dialog with representatives of Somoza's party while the tyrant was still in power even though it had earlier promised not to conduct any negotiation but simply and clearly to demand Somoza's withdrawal in accordance with the constitution controlled by Somozism. Under these circumstances, the Group of 12, the Union of Nicaraguan Workers (CTN) and several legal advisers who set an example of civic honesty all withdrew. Later, in the face of the proposal calling for a plebiscite while retaining intact the bases of Somozism, the FAO gentlemen said no, that the people had already voted against Somoza. But now they say yes, and Somoza and the Somozists say yes also. And the mediators become enthusiastic because they have managed to make both the FAO and Somoza say yes.

Could it be that the FAO and Somoza are one and the same thing?

The FAO has only one chance to show that it has acted honestly: It must withdraw from the negotiations as soon as possible and denounce the plebiscite as a maneuver by Somoza. It must denounce the imperialist policy of the U.S. Government, which today seeks to impose on us a traitorous and capitulating government, just as it has done in the past.

We condemn the plebiscite and reiterate that the only solution to Nicaragua's current crisis is through the permanent armed struggle that rebellious people are currently waging throughout our territory.

We support the pronouncement by the Group of 12 and we ask the honest men within FAO not to give up but to follow the example of the 12.

Against the Somozist plebiscite, Sandinist insurrection! Hail the popular democratic government! In the face of the imperialist maneuver, Sandinist insurrection! Death to Somozism! Free fatherland or death!

[Signed] For the National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front: Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Victor Tirado Lopez, Humberto Ortega Saavedra; for the general staff of the Sandinist army: Eden Pastora Gomez, German Pomares Ordonez, Joaquin Cuadra Lacayo; general staff, Benjamin Zeledon southern front; general staff, Carlos Fonseca Amador northern front; general staff, Camilo Ortega central front; general staff, Rigoberto Lopez Perez western front

COMMUNIQUE RELEASED ON DEATH OF PUEBLO NUEVO GUARDSMAN

PA011230Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2355 GMT 30 Nov 78 PA

[Communique No 75 issued by Legal and Public Relations Office of National Guard; date not given]

[Text] The Legal and Public Relations Office of the Nicaraguan National Guard hereby informs the citizenry that, according to the report by the doctor of the Rio San Juan departmental commander's office, the death of Corp Juan Aragon T., National Guardsman No 27-155, commander of the Pueblo Nuevo police post, occurred as follows: He was hit by machinegun fire. Once he was on the ground, he was brutally beaten. His finger nails were pulled out. He was castrated. His tongue was cut out and he was later hung and burned.

[Signed] Aquiles Aranda Escobar, colonel, National Guard Legal Corps, chief of the Legal and Public Relations Office of the National Guard

NATIONAL GUARD REPORTS KILLING 10 SANDINISTS

PA020428Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0345 GMT 2 Dec 78 PA

[Communique No 76 issued by Nicaraguan National Guard General Headquarters, Managua, on 1 December 1978]

[Text] The National Guard's Legal and Public Relations Office informs the people that at 0700 on 29 November 1978 a rural police patrol clashed in the sector of (El Guailo), between Leon and Esteli departments, with Sandinist-communists who have tried to maintain unrest in that rural sector. After the clash, an inspection revealed the bodies of two terrorists.

The National Guard reports the death of Pvt Hector Jose Araya, No 24,279, who died fulfilling his duty. He gave his life for Nicaragua.

At 1630 on 30 November, in the same jurisdiction, patrols which were pursuing the attackers clashed with and killed three of them. One shotgun, a large quantity of medicine and one fragmentation grenade were found at the scene of the shooting, materiel which the terrorists had abandoned as they fled.

Today, 1 December, at 0800 police patrols clashed with subversive individuals between Agua Zarca and El Portillo Hill, killing five of them. None of the Sandinist-communists has been identified.

The National Guard suffered no casualties in the last two encounters.

National Guard patrols are continuing their mission in order to bring peace to the population.

[Signed] Col Aquiles Aranda Escobar, chief of the National Guard's Legal and Public Relations Office

THREE GUERRILLAS, ONE GUARDSMAN KILLED IN CLASH

PA031508Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0345 GMT 3 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Managua--At 2000 on 1 December at Naranjitas in Esteli Department, a police patrol clashed with a group of guerrillas killing one terrorist who has not been identified. National Guard Corp Luis Beltran Neira was killed in action. The patrol confiscated a garand rifle, three clips, several cartridges and subversive documents.

The [National Guard] communique also reported another clash at 1230 on 2 December in the same area, in which two guerrillas were killed, while there were no National Guard casualties.

The police continue patrol operations to protect the residents in the area.

COSTA RICAN REPORT ON BORDER DEATHS DENIED

PA011231Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2355 GMT 30 Nov 78 PA

[Communique No 81 issued by Information and Press Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic; date not given]

[Text] The Information and Press Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic categorically denies the tendentious report disseminated by Radio Columbia of San Jose, Costa Rica, through Radio Corporacion in Managua concerning the ruling issued by Dr (Werner Slitz), a pathologist sent to San Jose by the OAS. The report supplied by Radio Columbia's Federico Gonzalez says that Dr (Slitz), from Detroit, who was hired by the OAS to examine the bodies of the two Costa Rican militarymen who were killed by the Nicaraguan National Guard, fully confirmed that at least Lieutenant Sanchez Carvajal had died from rifle butt blows.

This report, like many others, was produced in Costa Rica with the sole intention of discrediting our people, our government and the Nicaraguan National Guard. A dispatch by the news agency responsible, ACAN-EFE, completely refutes Radio Columbia's claim. The news dispatch says textually: San Jose, 28 Nov (ACAN-EFE)--The presence of a lesion which was not caused by a bullet wound on the body of one of the two Civil Guardsmen who died last Tuesday in a clash with Nicaraguan Army members was confirmed by a pathologist sent by the OAS to San Jose. The reputable scientist, (Werner Slitz), from the United States, examined the bodies of policemen Heriberto Sanchez Carvajal and Juan Guillermo Alfaro today, Tuesday.

During an interview with newsmen, (Slitz) said that he could not add or take away anything from the report prepared by two Costa Rican pathologists who mentioned the lesion which was not caused by a bullet and which appears in the head of Lieutenant Sanchez Carvajal.

However, spokesmen for this country's coroner's office said that the ruling mentions the controversial lesion but at no time says that it was caused by rifle butt blows, as the executive branch has pointed out. (Slitz), despite the newsmen's insistence, did not want to discuss the possibility that the deceased lieutenant had been killed by the blows he allegedly received rather than from bullet wounds.

We condemn the ill-willed statement transmitted by Radio Columbia from San Jose, Costa Rica, over Radio Corporacion which was made with hostile intentions. But the truth shines forth once again and we rely on it in order to destroy the sinister smear campaign which has been undertaken in Costa Rica against Nicaragua.

[Signed] Information and Press Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic

OAS: CIVIL GUARDS DIED ON NICARAGUAN TERRITORY

PA021929Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Dec 78 PA

[Text] The OAS ad hoc commission that went to Costa Rica first and then to Nicaragua to investigate the events on the border between the two nations has admitted that the two Civil Guards from Costa Rica died on Nicaraguan territory during an exchange of fire with a National Guard patrol.

In an interview with journalist Rafael Mojica, of Teleprensa Channel 6, Ambassador Kemil Dipp Gomez, president of the OAS ad hoc commission, stated that following investigations and analyses in Costa Rica and Nicaragua, he reached the conclusion that the dead and the wounded were found on Nicaraguan territory.

The ambassador said that he was informed of this by Costa Rican Civil Guard Capt Carmelo Diaz Jimenez and by National Guard Capt Pablo Emilio Salazar. He said that when he carried out the inspection of Costa Rican territory, he asked Captain Salazar for permission to cross the fence that separates the two countries and that, together with Captain Diaz and the interior minister of Costa Rica, he went to the place where the dead and the wounded had been found. He added that it was on Nicaraguan territory.

YOUTHS PICKET PANAMANIAN EMBASSY, CALL TORRIJOS COMMUNIST

PA020423Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0345 GMT 2 Dec 78 PA

[Text] A group of Nicaraguan youths held a protest demonstration yesterday against Gen Omar Torrijos' government. The demonstrators carried posters which labeled Torrijos a communist and supplier of weapons to the Sandinst Front. The demonstration of popular repudiation was staged outside the Panamanian Embassy, attracting journalists and foreign correspondents.

This was the second such demonstration held in the last few days. The first demonstration was staged outside the Venezuelan Embassy. Nicaraguan youths do not agree with intervention by foreign governments in our affairs and strongly condemn arms supplied to the Sandinist Front extremists.

TEXTS OF VEIGA, ROCA CALDERIO CTC STATEMENTS PROVIDED

Veiga Summarizes Debates

FL010052Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2250 GMT 30 Nov 78 FL

[CTC Secretary General Roberto Veiga's summary of debates on main report to the 14th Congress of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers (CTC) at Havana's Lazaro Pena auditorium--live]

[Text] Comrade Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers; comrades of the Politburo, Secretariat and Central Committee; comrades of the Presidium; comrade delegates and guests; comrades all:

It is up to me to summarize and submit to the consideration of the congress the main report which, on behalf of the national organizing committee, I read at the inaugural session.

Not all the comrades who had requested to speak were able to speak. All those who could not be given the floor for reasons of time were asked that anyone who had nothing new to add and everyone who had no objection to the report to decline their right to speak at the congress. Obviously, for reasons of time we were required to make this request.

On behalf of the national organizing committee of the congress I want to express our deepest gratitude to all those comrades. They understood the situation and their understanding facilitates our meeting the work schedule agreed upon for our congress. [applause] Nevertheless, we are very much concerned that someone might leave the congress thinking that he had something important to say and did not say it and that someone might feel hurt over that. For this reason, if someone has been left with any doubt because he was hoping to say something and was unable to say it, that he had to say something important and could not say it, we will give him the opportunity to submit his views in writing to the chairmanship of this congress. And we propose to consider any observation during the work of the committees tomorrow. [applause]

We would have liked to use all the turns to speak that were requested because, in the end, the thing that makes our labor movement strong, what makes our labor movement a mighty one, is precisely that democratic spirit that has prevailed here, that possibility which all workers have to present their views and suggestions and to participate in all the work.

It is encouraging for us to confirm that the prevailing theme in the presentations of the comrades in connection with the main report has not been personal problems or an [word indistinct] attitude. The proposals were directed essentially to the contents of our theses and directed at solving our vital economic problems. This is a source of satisfaction and pride for us.

This has been a democratic congress. Of course, there are mercenaries of yellow trade unionism, leaders or pseudo-labor leaders well paid by the CIA, well paid by the roughest and most reactionary elements of North American trade unionism, which devote themselves to question the internal labor democracy of our organization because of their frustration over the unstoppable advance of the revolution and rise of our labor movement. This is of no concern to us. There are many factors and reasons which can counteract these fallacies. [as heard] Suffice it to say that anti-democratic impositions and methods never will prosper among the men and women who have raised the banners of socialism victoriously just 90 miles from the imperialist Yankees and among the men and women who do not hesitate for a second to give their sweat and blood for the liberty and independence of other nations. [applause]

The theses of this congress, comprehensively discussed by the workers and backed by their overwhelming majority, previously were the object of a study and preparation process in which the majority of our cadres participated from one corner of the country to the other. Our theses have been the result of analysis and collective consideration by our cadres and workers.

The essence and, very particularly, the projections of the main report which I submitted to this congress are devoted to what is contained in our theses as well as to the results of the discussions conducted in the congresses of the 18 national trade unions and in discussions at the conferences held in all the country's municipalities and provinces. This explains why most of the presentations made in connection with the main report are identified with its content.

Quite a few presentations helped to enhance and strengthen the content of the report. For example, the comrades of the Nico Lopez refinery spoke here of the experiences they have had which helped them to save 1 million pesos last year.

Comrade Rafael Gonzalez spoke to us of the need to strengthen the organization and control of collective work contracts. There was the appeal of Comrade Del Monte, four times national work hero, who urged the administrations [presumably of enterprises] to give higher priority to the extraordinary work being done by our innovators and rationalizers Comrade (Cayi) referred to the problems of training. He thereby was discussing further what is contained in the report. There was Comrade Wilfredo Hernandez from Varadero who spoke to us of problems with the vacation plan. Comrade Orlando Herrera told us of his experiences, negative as well as positive ones, with the application of premiums [as heard] at the Rene Ramos Latour plant. Comrade Chamorro discussed here and illustrated with examples the neglect of workers' records. Comrade (Reynaldo Garballo) explained the problems with work clothes and the need to give priority to some sectors given the characteristics and nature of their work.

Comrade (Gambo) referred to occupational and health problems in the sugar industry. There was Comrade Manolo Ortega who spoke to us about the resolutions of the cultural workers congress and their importance for organizing work in that sector. Comrade (Ernestoy), with very eloquent language, spoke to us of the productive achievements over these years by the workers in our ports.

Comrade (Daisy Acallao) of the glass complex referred to the need to break away from schematic judgments when evaluating the status of women as outstanding workers. Comrade Luis Lopez illustrated with examples how the capital's workers have welcomed with extraordinary joy the decision that labor social clubs become part of our trade unions. Comrade (Lazaro) spoke of the pledge by socialist vanguard workers to complete the spare parts plan in order to guarantee supplies for the sugarcane harvesters used in the sugar harvest which we have just begun.

The comrades of the Santiago de Cuba cement plant spoke to us and explained their experiences with inter-factory emulation work. Comrade (Atile), in the clear and simple language of a farm worker, insisted on the importance of [good] treatment of man and concern for the conditions of work of men. Comrade (Valenzuela) confirmed what the report points out in referring to the neglect in organizing labor forces in agriculture when he referred to the problems being confronted, especially at this time, in giving attention to the system of pay per completed field.

The congress strongly urged strengthening the demands on administrative and state management. And when the comrade from Camaguey expressed his discontent and concern with the facts that manifest administrative negligence and which appear in our newspapers, the congress stood up and reaffirmed its determination to struggle to improve administrative and state management.

In other words, comrades, these and other important presentations have helped to ratify and assert once again the content of the main report rendered to the congress. There were presentations of the productive achievements with which the workers greeted the congress. With much emotion we heard Comrade (Edith Castillo) speak to us of the productive achievements of the workers in (La Avispa). The comrades of the construction sector came here and delivered to our commander in chief the pledges of workers from an important group involved in industrial projects.

In the same manner, the agricultural-livestock workers trade union delivered to him the pledges of sugarcane harvester operators for the next harvest. The comrades of the education sector also reaffirmed their pledges through the presence of their union's secretary general at this congress.

We were extraordinarily enthusiastic by the fact that each of the Havana Province and Havana City canecutting brigades propose to cut 2 million arrobas of sugarcane in the current harvest. [applause]

Some comrades discussed the efforts they are making to overcome deficiencies in their respective sectors. Comrade (Febre) spoke of the efforts being made to solve transportation problems. However, it must be said that the problems still exist despite such efforts.

Comrade (Jimenez) discussed the organization of work in construction. (?He) spoke of responsibilities of the investors [as heard] to control quality. We do not believe this is incorrect but it is proper to emphasize that the principal quality control responsibility in our construction projects falls on the builders themselves.

Some other comrades referred to very specific problems not covered in the report or in the theses which, in our view, should be submitted for consideration of the congress. The congress should accept the proposal made by Comrade (Braulio Vas), who suggested changing the structure of the articles [presumably prizes] which outstanding canecutters have the option to accept. And he explained the reasons for his proposal. We believe the reasons are justified and that the congress should accept (Braulio's) proposal so that the directorate elected here can examine this problem.

We should also, within the framework of giving priority to the process of expanding the linking of salaries with production, appraise the proposal made by Comrade (Ana Hilda) on the problem of poultry-raising workers. But not only dealing with this problem from the salary and linking angles, but to also concern ourselves with improving these workers' working conditions. I believe that the uneasiness and concern of Comrade (Ana Hilda) should be dealt with by our congress.

Comrade (Magaly) discussed the problem of the [free] passes faced by aviation workers. I believe the management which will be elected in the transportation trade union should examine the problem with the pertinent organizations and either solve this or respond to this as the case requires, and therefore resolve this once and for all.

We believe we should look into the observation made by Comrade (Mercedes Morejon) when she recommended that student labor education should be given priority because it is something indispensible in training children and youth. It seems opportune to us to recall the proposal which resulted from Comrade (Valdivia's) presentation, who referred to the great importance of our favoring unionization of medicine and medical health technician students. In addition, we believe that this analysis should be extended to other sectors facing similar situations.

Comrade (Alba), with the prestige and authority given him for being an innovator and who has already made very important contributions to the national economy, spoke to us on the need for technicians and engineers to pay more attention to the work done by innovators.

He also proposed to create a type of laboratory in the provinces to facilitate the work done by this important movement. We do not know to what degree the country will be able to respond to fulfilling an agreement of this type, but the point is that we are taking note of it here.

It is probable that in many provinces there are work centers which have the conditions for this work, to which Comrade (Carlos Alba) referred, and these work centers do to a certain degree carry out the function which Comrade (Alba) is striving for in his proposal. This should be studied. We do not believe that we should agree to create laboratories in all provinces. It is necessary to study this problem still further. But we believe that the most important is that the congress consider the essence of the contents of Comrade (Alba's) proposals and therefore we should propose that each province should struggle to create the conditions to create possibilities allowing comrade innovators and rationalizers to provide the national economy with the contributions which they want to make through their work and efforts.

It is proper that we also add to the proposal made by (Vistel Aneli), so that all labor legislation takes into consideration the specificities of the cultural and artistic sector. They are concerned that reporter evaluations should be carried out more seriously. But this is also a problem which can be dealt with by the congress.

Comrade (Roberto Varia) discussed some important problems regarding the quality of discussing control figures with workers. I also believe that the congress should recommend to the management which will be elected that it take this concern into consideration. Although it was not part of the discussion of the main report, Comrade Vilma Espin, in her greeting to our congress, among other things referred to suspension of the night shift, which had been put into effect in some small units, to benefit working women.

I believe we should examine this problem and include the findings in a resolution of our congress. We must also recall that the congress has already reached agreement--at the request of Comrade Antonio Sanchez--in that the transportation and sugar industry workers trade unions should strengthen their efforts in fulfilling the transportation of sugar as planned. It was also agreed to include the comrades of the merchant marine and port workers trade union in the analysis of that effort. It is our belief that we should also include the proposal of Comrade Artiles, who asked that we offer and conduct two medical checkups per year of the high productivity brigades workers.

We must also give consideration to the proposal made by Comrade Llanez aimed at conducting a study of educational profiles prior to entering the university. I believe this is a problem that can be examined by the congress to dispel uneasiness. He brought up another problem, the one of the law on benefits for workers attending university courses. This law is being discussed now. It is being examined to reconcile the interests of studying workers with those of the country's economy.

The problem of the comrades working on smokestacks was also submitted [to the congress], the concern of the proponents, the risks and danger in that type of work, the inconveniences faced in recruiting men for that type of work. I believe the congress should examine [this matter] and progressively implement a policy on the abnormal working conditions or improve wages for abnormal working conditions. We should assign priority to the analysis of this matter of the policy dealing with the smokestacks problem. This of course, is not a matter of money. It is a matter of abnormal conditions that we could resolve by paying, for this reason, abnormal conditions. If it can be done, what is essential is to avoid those abnormal conditions. The life of a worker cannot be bought. [applause] You know very well that this country has spent tens of thousands of dollars for one worker, to save the life of one worker. No worker will die here, lose his life because of a money problem. Any kind of effort that has to be made will be made to save the life of one worker or any citizen of this country. [applause]

So the problem is not only a matter of deciding whether to pay for abnormal conditions. In addition and above all, we must try to see if those dangerous conditions in that type of work can be diminished. I believe it is just. It is [words indistinct].

We must discuss the problem of work clothing. The case is the one involving comrades who continue to work in cleaning tasks after the harvest ends. I believe that this is another problem that must be taken up, examined and solutions found aimed at alleviating that situation, within the country's resources. Lastly, we wanted to refer to a problem brought up by Comrade Artiles--is that correct?--the problem of the so-called vacations for agricultural workers.

We recall that during the preparatory process of the 13th congress, when we were doing the paperwork, some comrades called our attention to the fact that agricultural workers had no vacation. This caused great concern among us and we started an investigation. In reality that was not the case. When the agricultural workers' wage scales were prepared, it was decided that due to rains or other reasons--I am talking about something that happened 10 or 12 years ago, maybe more--the agricultural workers did not work 30 or 40 days per year. Because of that, the 909 [not further identified] was assigned to each wage scale of the agricultural workers' wage scales for reasons of paid vacation. We are not going to question whether this matter was correct or not, but the result was, the concrete outcome is that the 909 was included in each of the wage scale rates. After this measure was adopted, new work forces joined agriculture. Apparently, this was not explained to them, that the 909 was included. This resulted in having this matter being brought up again during the 13th congress.

Some comrades proposed the following: Let us deduct the 909 included in the scales, give them a 1-month vacation and pay them that amount later. This could not be understood by the agricultural workers because it was a matter of deducting first and paying later. What decision was adopted? It was decided to eliminate subgroups Nos 1 and 2 from the scale. This implied an increase in wages of about 12 or 13 percent. By adopting that measure, we could deduct the 909 and accumulate it. Something like 2 or 3 percent of increase remained in the income in doing it this way. We saw this as a solution to the problem, but that solution was included in all labor and wage measures agreed to at the 13th CTC Congress and that, as you noted in the report submitted to this congress, amounted to approximately 13 million pesos annually.

The solution to this problem was included in the revision of wage scales, abnormal conditions, the qualifiers [no explanation given] and all other measures which you read in the report to the congress. We began to apply it in 1976. As shown in the congress report, by 1976 we had applied 30 percent of the measures and the united groups were not yet included. The reasons why we did not continue were the ones given in the congress report. I believe that it is unnecessary to repeat what has been said in that main report. These were reasons which were discussed at work centers throughout the country and which were approved by the workers. But the problem was brought up objectively.

For example, we have discussed the topics. Some 5,008 assembly meetings were held in the agricultural sector in which 392,464 workers participated. This problem was taken up in 639 assembly meetings in which 73,708 workers participated. It is a minor problem but we take into consideration minor problems no matter how small they are. Even the PCC Politburo expressed interest in the problems submitted by the workers when discussing the topics. These were problems that were brought up in the majority of the assembly meetings but problems, no matter how small or exceptional,which were brought up by the workers. We attended a meeting of the PCC Politburo, where leaders of our party expressed concern, showed interest in each and every one of the problems included among the topics. In connection with this problem, I can tell you that it is a duty of our party and our government, when the country's economic possibilities can afford it, to move to apply the solution of this problem as agreed to by the 13th CTC Congress. [applause]

Comrades, in broad outlines this is our judgement of the discussion of the report and these are the additions or proposals that we want to submit to this congress. Thank you very much. [applause] [At this point the main report is approved "unanimously" with "modifications and proposals."]

Address by, Roca Calderio

FL011927Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1715 GMT 1 Dec 78 FL

[PCC Politburo member Blas Roca Calderio address to the 14th Congress of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers (CTC) at Havana's Lazaro Pena auditorium--live]

[Text] Comrades of the Presidium, comrade guests, comrade delegates, comrades all: In his magnificent main report--a critical and self-critical report of what has been done and a considered projection of what has to be done--Comrade Roberto Veiga has referred, without going into details on the subject, to the existing relationship between the agreements adopted by the previous CTC congress 5 years ago and the measures of the party and revolutionary government designed to reorganize, strengthen and systematize fundamental institutions and standards of our socialist state.

The agreements of the 13th congress, Comrade Veiga said, represented the first step in the search for economic efficiency. They strengthened the revolutionary consciousness of all the people and paved the way for the momentous political and organizational advances that would come later.

By recalling the thesis of the 13th congress, designed to formulate and make viable the implementation of the Marxist principle "from each according to his ability, to each according to his work," which must prevail in a socialist society, and to make gratuitous volunteer work more effective and efficient for the benefit of society, to improve standards and link them to wages, to determine ways of participation of the labor movement in administrative and state management, to improve socialist emulation and to recognize collective and individual merits, we can see clearly the relationship to which I have referred between the 13th congress and the process of our country's institutionalization.

Naturally, this relationship is not a casual thing since the process to strengthen and rebuild the labor movement which ended with the 13th congress and the institutionalization process whose culminating points were the new economic management and planning system, the new politico-administrative territorial division, the adoption of a socialist constitution and the installation and election of municipal, provincial and national people's government organs, have as their source and axis the critical guidelines and guiding proposals made by our chief and guide, Comrade Fidel, in 1970. [applause] These were aimed at strengthening the party and outlining its functions with regard to those of the state and organizations, rebuilding and strengthening the mass organizations, especially of the trade unions and, consequently, of the CTC, strengthening and improving the state apparatus, systematically incorporating the masses into state and administrative decisions, and so forth.

The first party congress reaffirmed, generalized and gave a definitive political approval to such proposals as part of the programmed definitions in the struggle to build socialism in our country. For this reason, although in certain respects we find ourselves in need of readjusting structures and initiating new procedural methods to which this 14th congress has devoted special attention, the essential issues agree with the changes initiated by the 13th congress. These issues are concerned with the economic management and planning system, the socialist constitution, the functions of the people's government National Assembly, the state's central organs and the local people's government organs.

I should like to recall how some issues raised by the labor movement are reflected in articles of the socialist constitution. Article 19 states that in the Republic of Cuba there rules the socialist principle "from each according to his ability, to each according to his work." The last paragraph of Article 44 stipulates recognition of nonremunerated volunteer work done for the benefit of society in industrial, agricultural, technical, artistic and service activities as developer of the community consciousness of our people. Article 86 empowers the CTC National Committee to introduce draft bills.

Article No 99 recognizes the right of the CTC secretary general to participate in the sessions of the Council of Ministers and its Executive Committee. Another example we can cite on the juridical authority of proposals made in 1970 and decided upon by the 13th congress can be found in the law on the organization of the state central administration which, in defining the duties, responsibilities and common functions of the agencies of the state central administration, that is ministries, state committees, and so forth, in its Article No 52 decrees the creation of conditions for the workers to express their initiative as well as the active participation of workers and their mass and social organizations in the discussion and supervision of the economy's plans, in improvement of production, work, management and organization and in the elimination of deficiencies in the activities of the agency, its enterprises and other units.

In Clause P, the duty of these organizations is defined with respect to the support they should give to the CTC and the trade unions in the organization of socialist emulation. Clause Q determines that these organizations should reach agreement with the national trade unions on the general guidelines which would serve as methodological foundation for the signing of collective work pledges at the enterprise level. All of this is part of the fulfillment of the objective agreed upon in 1970 aimed at strengthening the incorporation of masses into state and administrative decisions. The same is the case with the participation of the masses in the preparation of the more important laws whose drafts are submitted to popular and public discussion.

In trade union assembly meetings, for example, in order to discuss the draft constitution, more than 1.6 million workers participated. Equally numerous and highly noticeable was the workers' participation in discussion of many important bills. Part of this, likewise, is the participation of the masses in state decisions, in the system of election and operation of people's government organs with their delegates and deputies who have to remain at their work posts. The fact [portion unheard due to transmission problems] have lay judges who have the same rights as professional judges in the important task of imparting justice. There, in their function as judges as well as in their participation in labor council meetings, the trade union movement's members have an especially important field for concretely applying their efforts for the sake of socialist legality.

In one of the draft resolutions which has not yet been submitted for discussion by the congress, I mean for final decision, it is established: first, to work for making every work center a frontline combatant in the fulfillment of socialist legality, in the struggle in any type of criminal manifestation until eradicating this leftover or bourgeois mentality.

In what we have said you can see the foundation of the possibility of carrying out that important task, because the progress of institutionalization, the improvement and fulfillment of our laws and codes in accordance with our socialist system, the precise definition of the functions of organs, agencies and organizations and duties and rights of all is the foundation upon which socialist legality is established. Without socialist laws there can be no socialist legality. Without socialist institutions there can be no socialist legality.

The socialist legality is not limited to the struggle against crime, even though this is an important part of it, for criminal actions harm and affect the fundamental rights and interests of persons and society. To struggle for socialist legality is to struggle against crime, yes, against traffic accidents which cause more and more deaths and cripplings, against damage of personal and social property. But, to struggle for socialist legality is also to struggle for strict fulfillment of laws and respect for established norms, pertinent to socialist coexistence. To struggle for socialist legality is to struggle for respect for the rights of each and every one. To struggle for socialist legality is to struggle for the fulfillment of all duties. To struggle for socialist legality is to have everybody, whether he be worker, peasant, official, employee, prosecutor, judge, policeman, soldier or leader or subordinate make every effort, each and every one, I repeat, do well and increasingly better what each has to do. [applause]

Each work unit, as stated in the draft -I would do better saying--each trade union can doubtlessly be a frontline combatant for socialist legality. And, if it works hard, it can be a very efficient combatant, a victorious combatant. For example, many transportation workers, namely railroad workers and truck drivers, are part of workers' groups. The group can exert upon them great influence so that they improve their knowledge and skills, so that they will rectify their misbehavior or negligence, so that they will increase the degree of care and attention aimed at avoiding accidents which destroy lives and property and the health of many.

The work group can look after security measures, the health and frame of mind of the comrade who has a job which, when done negligently, rashly, without skill or recklessly, can cause irreparable damages. The work group can also see to it that maintenance or repairs are done with proper quality, and that the equipment is inspected carefully so that malfunctions do not contribute to the creation of conditions for perpetrating a crime and, as a result, a fatal accident. Those are some of the ways in which the work group can struggle to combat the crime that is perpetrated as a result of negligence. It would be meritorious for a transportation work group, namely automotive or railroad, if at the end of the year, none of its members has been cited for a traffic accident.

Another example, some state officials and employees are part of trade union groups which could be combatants for socialist legality in an efficient manner by seeing to it that its members fulfill their obligations, that they promptly handle whatever paperwork they are responsible for that they show interest in serving the citizens requesting their services in official agencies, that they care for the records under their supervision so that nothing is lost or misplaced and so forth. All of this truly and seriously contributes to the reign of socialist legality. [applause]

Out of each work sector we could cite concrete examples of how the work groups can fight for socialist legality with actions against their own members and with ordinances governing their own work, the work of each. A special role in the struggle for socialist legality is that of the lay judges and work groups as well as members of labor boards who in their majority are closely tied to the units electing them. The majority of the more than 5,000 lay judges who participate in judicial work come from trade union groups. These workers participate as members of tribunals hearing criminal actions for any type of crime, in civil cases for any type of complaint, in labor trials for all types of complaints and disciplinary actions.

Each and every decision of those judges, and even every indecision or lack of decision, has to do with socialist legality, directly and immediately, because the tribunal penalizes acts against the law, restores violated rights, gives legal value and juridical consistency to certain acts and, in general, sees to it that the law is obeyed and that what it protects is respected. The lay judges, those who come from trade union groups, are called upon to play an important role in the administration of justice, in the practical exercise of socialist legality in some of its most important aspects.

They, who maintain daily contact with the mass from where they come, who observe the daily behavior of the workers and understand their frame of mind, can contribute to the tribunal their impartial opinions, their desire for profound justice, for social and humane justice, the justice which decidedly contributes to the reign of socialist legality. They can convey to their trade union group their judicial experiences.

The labor union, a fighter for socialist legality, can cooperate with them to better perform that function. We are convinced, comrades, that this 14th CTC Congress will contribute, in every respect, toward an increasing realization of incorporating the masses into the administrative and state decisions, a more active participation of the workers in the tasks of local organs of people's government, fulfillment of the precepts of our socialist constitution, respect and observance of laws and legal orders and, in sum, advancing socialist legality in every respect.

We are certain that this 14th congress will be an instrument for new advances of the labor movement and for new victories of the CTC because it has been conducted on the path recalled to us by the beautiful initial words of Lazaro [Pena], who is present now and always in our hearts, [applause] because this 14th congress is advancing on the paths opened 20 years ago by the glorious victory of the revolution--the revolution that is invincible because its foundation is a united people and a Marxist-Leninist party and because it is led by its chief and guide, the invincible leader, Comrade Fidel Castro. [prolonged applause]

REPORT ISSUED ON THIRD-DAY AFTERNOON SESSION OF CTC CONGRESS

FL011251Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Dec 78 FL

[Excerpt] At 1907 (0007 GMT) the third day of the 14th Central Organization of Cuban Workers--CTC--Congress ended. It was presided over by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Council of State and government.

[Begin telephone report by unidientified reporter] At the session the 2,083 delegates to the congress unanimously approved the main report. Before the vote Roberto Viega made a detailed report on the discussion by the delegates of the main report which was called positive, profound and significant.

At the afternoon session (Muhammad Andalup), president of the Iraq general federation of trade unions, after delivering a greeting to the Cuban working masses, made a special presentation in which he pointed out the fruitful work being done by the congress and expressed the hope that trade union ties between the two countries would be strengthened.

The next speakers before the delegates to the 14th congress were (Famid el Lindi), the representative of the Palestinian trade unions, who also congratulated our country's workers and referred to the Palestinian people's struggle against Zionism and imperialism.

In the last portion of the third day of work a message from Yugoslav workers was received in a message by (Djorde Lazic), secretary of the central council of the confederation of trade unions of Yugoslavia. In his presentation (Lazic) pointed out the importance of the nonalined countries movement and that of holding the sixth [nonalined] summit in Havana next year.

At this session of the 14th CTC Congress, which was directed by Luis Martell Rosas, numerous delegates expanded on the proposals in the main report and made some additional proposals.

POLITICAL PRISONERS PACT TO BE SIGNED IN DECEMBER

PA011525Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2058 GMT 30 Nov 78 PA

[Excerpt] Havana, 30 Nov (EFE)--Cuban authorities and members of the Cuban community abroad (CCE) will sign the agreement for the release of political prisoners on the island between 8 and 10 December. This information was obtained by EFE from well-informed sources.

The 75 CCE members who will attend the signing of the agreements reached during talks held in mid-November will begin arriving in Cuba on 7 December.

The same sources said that the signing of the agreement reached 2 weeks ago between Fidel Castro and [words indistinct] will not be delayed following the U.S. Government's announcement that it will admit political prisoners and their relatives. However, it is recalled here that the United States made no mention of the 4,000 former political prisoners who, together with their families, would total between 12,000 and 15,000 persons wishing to travel to the United States.

A document called "the charter of the 75," in which the CCE's members seek to reflect what has been called the "historic event" of the Cuban revolution, will be released during the meetings to be held in Havana between 8 and 10 December. The drafting of the document, which will later be discussed by participants in the dialog, has been entrusted to Rosendo Canto, former ambassador during Batista's regime and a participant in the talks.

INDIAN DELEGATION CRITICIZES U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

FL021529Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1518 GMT 2 Dec 78 FL

[Text] President Carter's human rights campaign is a perfect example of the hypocrisy of the North American system, stated a visiting delegation of the U.S. Indian people, in a press conference held in Havana City. Its members explained the various ways in which the North American government violates Indians' rights and recounted the abuses and massacres endured by some of their tribes at the hands of federal agents.

The U.S. Indian delegation also proclaimed that, using judicial agents, leaders of the struggle and men and women are being imprisoned for merely speaking out against the oppressive nature of the U.S. Government. In response to questions posed by newsmen, the delegation gave an account of its people's history and added that they are struggling for respect of their rights and nationality.

CASTRO ATTENDS VENEZUELAN EMBASSY RECEPTION

FL021339Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 2 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Council of State and government, has attended a cocktail party given by the Venezuelan Embassy on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the resumption of relations between the two countries. Fidel chatted with Venezuelan Ambassador Ramon Delgado on matters dealing with the successful development of bilateral relations between Cuba and Venezuela. Other leaders of the Cuban state attended the reception.